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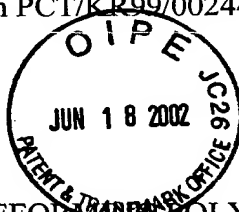
PATENT
Docket No.: 57899/110

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Lee et al.)
Serial No. : 09/601,310, based on PCT/KR99/00244)
Cnfrm. No. : 9736)
Filed : May 15, 1999)
For : METHODS FOR REFORMING POLYMER)
SURFACE FOR IMPROVED)
WETTABILITY)

Examiner:
S. Berman

Art Unit:
1711



AMENDMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Box 2327
Arlington, Virginia 22202
Box:

Dear Sir:

In response to the February 13, 2002, office action, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 10-14 and 16 without prejudice.

Please substitute pending claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 15, and 17-31 with amended claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 15, and 17-31 as follows:

a' 1. (Amended) A method for reforming the surface of a polymer membrane comprising irradiating energized ionic particles on the surface of the polymer membrane under vacuum condition and under conditions effective to change pore size and shape of the polymer membrane.

a 2 3. (Amended) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the ionic particles are produced from one or more ion generating gases selected from the group

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